

provides for promotion of clusters of small scale and tiny units, and to promote stronger linkages between agriculture and industry by way of creation/upgradation of infrastructural facilities in the new/existing centres/industrial areas and to create employment opportunities and develop exports. The Central Government provides grant upto Rs. 2 Crores and Small Industries Development Bank of India provides term loan upto Rs. 3 Crores for each Centre. An IID Centre is expected to accommodate about 450 units.

(d) The Government has sanctioned a total of 32 Projects till date in various states including eight projects which were sanctioned only in May, 1997. The Projects are at various stages of implementation.

(e) The IID Scheme is designed not only to meet the need of infrastructural facilities for the new units, but also aims at upgrading existing infrastructural facilities like power, water, communications, common service facilities including technology backup services, etc. in the industrial areas/existing centres.

Non-banking Financial Companies

*255. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-banking financial companies which have got themselves registered with the Reserve Bank of India and the number of NBFCs whose net worth is above and less than Rs. 1 crore;

(b) whether Indian and foreign banks in the country have decided not to provide any service to unregistered NBFCs;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor;

(d) the total estimated financial liability of NBFCs registered with RBI also of those which are unregistered;

(e) the number of depositors who are likely to be affected therefrom; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation in case of default in payment by NBFCs and for helping the depositors?

THE FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) Prior to amendment to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934 on 9-1-1997, there was a scheme of voluntary registration with RBI by Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) with net owned fund (NOF) of Rs. 50 lakhs and above. Under that scheme 852 NBFCs got themselves registered. There were more than 40000 NBFCs on the mailing list out of which about 10,000 companies were reporting to RBI. As per the statements filed with RBI as on 31st March, 1996, there were about 1441 NBFCs with NOF of Rs. 1 crore and above and the rest have NOF less than Rs. 1 crore each.

Under the provisions of Section 451A of the amended RBI Act all NBFCs including those mentioned above, were

required to apply for reregistration with RBI on or before 8th July, 1997. According to RBI, 37,478 applications for registration have been received from NBFCs.

(b) and (c) RBI have reported that they have not so far issued any instructions to the banks in this regard.

(d) and (e) As on 31st March, 1996, based on the statements filed by reporting NBFCs with RBI, their regulated deposits amounted to Rs. 35,795 crores of which Rs. 11,155 crore were public deposits. The exact number of depositors with NBFCs is not known to RBI.

(f) In case of default of payments by NBFCs, the depositors can lodge their complaints with Company Law Board in terms of Section 45QA(2) of RBI Act. In case of persistent defaults, RBI may also, if need be, file a winding up petition in the High Court under the provisions of Section 45MC of the RBI Act, if the company is inter-alia, unable to pay its debts.

[Translation]

Industrial Sickness

*256. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sick Companies losses total Rs. 23,000 crores" appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated July 11, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the number and details of Public Sector and Private Sector sick companies which are registered with the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR);

(d) the total losses suffered by them during each of the last two years;

(e) the total amount of capital investment made therein;

(f) the total number of employees affected as a result thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) According to the 'Performance Review, 1996' of the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), the number of sick units registered with the Board is 1853. Of these, 145 units belong to public sector undertakings (61 Central Public Sector Undertakings and 84 State Public Sector Undertakings).